APPENDIX A

1. (Amended) Apparatus comprising:

a first supply source of sterile air;

a supply source of sterilant;

an atomizing system producing an atomized sterilant from the mixing of the sterile air from the first supply source of sterile air with the sterilant;

a second supply source of a hot sterile air for providing the hot sterile air to the atomized sterilant;

a probe extending into an interior of a container for applying the atomized sterilant into the [an] interior of the [a] container; and

a third supply source of a hot sterile drying air for activating and drying the sterilant in the interior of the container.

11. (Amended) A method comprising:

providing a first supply of sterile air;

providing a supply of sterilant;

producing an atomized sterilant by mixing the first supply of sterile air with the sterilant;

providing a second supply of hot sterile air to the atomized sterilant;

providing a probe extending into an interior of a container for applying the atomized sterilant into the [an] interior of the [a] container; and

supplying a third supply of hot sterile drying air for activating and drying the sterilant in the interior of the container.

21. (Amended) Apparatus comprising:

means for supplying a first source of sterile air;

means for supplying a source of sterilant;

means for providing an atomizing system for producing an atomized sterilant from the mixing of sterile air from the first source of sterile air with the sterilant;

means for supplying a second source of hot sterile air to the atomized sterilant;

means for applying the atomized sterilant to an interior of a container by extending a probe into the interior of the container; and

means for supplying a third source of hot sterile drying air into the interior of the container for activating and drying the sterilant.